


The County Sligo Diaspora Strategy

2019 – 2024

Reaching Out ... Reaching In



Sligo County Council
Comhairle Chontae Shligigh



I will arise and go now,
For always night and day
I hear lake water lapping
With low sounds by the shore;
While I stand on the roadway
Or on the pavements grey,
I hear it in the deep heart's core.

William Butler Yeats

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Message from the Cathaoirleach of Sligo County Council



It is a great privilege for me, as Cathaoirleach of Sligo County Council, to introduce the County Sligo Diaspora Strategy 2019-2024. Acknowledging our Diaspora in this way allows us to celebrate the achievements of Sligo people both nationally and internationally. So many of those who were raised and educated here have gone on to achieve great things, and it is vital that we ensure we are connecting with our Diaspora overseas and with those who have stayed within Ireland, but have left the county. Many of us know personally those who have left for economic reasons or to broaden their horizons. The determination and success of Sligo people on a national and international stage has made us extremely proud, as families, as communities and as a county.

This Strategy aims to identify how we can encourage them to keep in touch, visit, or perhaps, in time, invest. The responsibility in turn lies with us to communicate and engage with our Diaspora. Sligo County Council has established very good relations through town twinning, and annual visits to the US on the occasion of St Patricks Day festival. The strategy will allow us further engage in a more structured and strategic way, to grow the bond between the Sligo homeland and Sligo communities abroad.

Organisations working to strengthen cultural identity in Ireland and across the globe have a lasting impact on our Diaspora. Working with partners such as the GAA and Comhaltas will support our agenda and help deliver the aims of the strategy.

The Diaspora Strategy is not simply a document created to reflect the Sligo Diaspora, it is a strategy which ensures that the Sligo Diaspora play an active role in the development of County Sligo well into the future. Delivering on this strategy will prove challenging, but with the support of my colleagues, the members of Comhairle Chontae Shligigh, we can succeed - ní neart go cur le chéile, there's strength in unity.

Cllr Martin Baker
Cathaoirleach of Sligo County Council



Foreword from the Chief Executive of Sligo County Council

The Irish have an ability to maintain, create and nurture links with their wider community throughout the world, a feature rooted in our sense of place and unique cultural organisations and networks such as the Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) and Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann. The links were further developed with culturally innovative projects such as the Gathering and Comóradh 1916, and have strengthened the connection between Diaspora, county and town.

This County Sligo Diaspora Strategy 2019 – 2024, provides a strategic plan for engaging with the Sligo community on a national and international level that reflects Ireland’s National Diaspora Strategy – Global Irish. The engagement will serve to enhance development across four priority areas of Economic & Job Creation, Arts, Heritage and Culture, Tourism and Genealogy, and Sport and Community.

This document represents our commitment to ensure we create meaningful channels of communication that will serve to support our economy, increase our social capacity, and most importantly, nurture the cultural roots of Sligo to which over 960,000 people across the world claim ownership. This strategy will build on long established international links in areas such as Boston, Chicago, London, Manchester, New York and Tallahassee. It will further develop the successful twinings with Crozon and Kempton,

and explore ways in which to enhance and develop new international connections.

Having recognised the need for a Diaspora strategy, we collaborated with Leitrim, Longford and Roscommon in its development. The success of any strategy lies in our ability to work together with other entities in achieving a common goal. Working closely with other agencies in the Sligo Local Community Development Committee and the Sligo Economic Forum has proven instrumental in producing a comprehensive document that encompasses the entirety of the Sligo community.

This strategy is one of a number of strategies that have been developed by Sligo County Council to promote and develop all aspects of Sligo as a smart and sustainable place where we can welcome the Sligo Diaspora to visit, to live and invest.

Is mian liom buíochas a ghabháil don fhoireann a chur an straitéis chuimsitheach seo le chéile. Guím gach rath orthú agus iad i mbun oibre chun na gníomhaíochtaí ar fad atá leagtha amach a chur i gcrích.

Ciarán Hayes
Chief Executive



1 Introduction

This Strategy sets out how Sligo County Council and its partners intend to link, liaise and collaborate with the 'Sligo Diaspora'.

Sligo's Diaspora is made up of the wider Sligo family who do not live in the County because they have moved or were born somewhere else, either in Ireland or overseas. That wider Sligo family is indisputably made up of people who have their roots here going back a few generations as well as those who have left much more recently (including members of the 'Affinity Diaspora', people who had migrated to Sligo from elsewhere but who have now returned home).

The aim of this Strategy is to strengthen 'the Sligo family' socially and economically, building its economic and community capacities and adding to the confidence, well-being and sense of belonging of the County and its people. To do that the Strategy involves working with many Sligo people and groups, both within the County and beyond, as well as Sligo's neighbouring Councils in Leitrim, Longford and Roscommon.



Supplied by Allison Crummy

Methodology

How the Work was Done

2.1 Background

The Diaspora Strategy process began in the autumn of 2017 and brought together the Local Authorities of Longford, Leitrim, Roscommon and Sligo, with Leitrim acting as the lead Authority. The aim was to develop four County-specific Strategies whilst simultaneously identifying and developing appropriate cross-Council synergies and areas of joint-working.

2.2 Working Principles

The process was also governed by these working principles:

- The Strategies reflect the analyses and development frameworks provided by the Counties’ Local Economic and Community Plans (LECPs)
- The Diaspora is seen as ‘both an asset and a responsibility’, with a two-way dynamic between the Diaspora and ‘home’ sought
- There is no single ‘type’ of Diaspora: it is cross-generation and multi-layered and the modern Diaspora is not always fixed but is instead often flexible and fluid
- Social media is now central in building and maintaining links, but the power and importance of personal/face-to-face connectivity also endures
- Emotion and belonging remains powerful in the context of the Irish Diaspora
- There is a need not to over-raise expectations and to focus on practical, pragmatic actions which will deliver tangible results
- The process is not starting from a zero-base but builds on existing Diaspora-related initiatives and projects
- Effective and successful engagement with the Sligo Diaspora can only be achieved with collaboration and should be the remit of all agencies and organisations with a role in community well-being, social and economic development.

2.3 Planning Process

The Strategy development process in Sligo involved the following steps:

- A planning meeting with all four partner Councils on 27 September 2017
- Liaison with the Community and Economic Development Section of Sligo County Council on projects/initiatives carried out to date that could inform the process and help build a picture of the Sligo Diaspora
- Desk research into the nature and extent of the Sligo Diaspora and into Irish Diaspora issues generally
- A questionnaire survey of relevant Sligo organizations to establish the nature and extent of their inter-action with the Sligo Diaspora
- The bringing together of a Sligo Diaspora Focus Group in two facilitated planning workshops on 19 December 2017 and 9 February 2018
- Discussions with the Council's Management Team on 19 December 2017
- The hosting of a facilitated inter-County workshop on 8 May 2018 on the role and potential of social media and digital connectivity
- The hosting of a facilitated inter-County workshop on 14 November 2018 to discuss and explore what a Diaspora-focused website should include
- Ongoing liaison with Council offices such as Heritage, Arts, Libraries, Tourism and Community and other agencies such as the Local Community and Economic Committee, Sligo Economic Forum, Fáilte Ireland, Sligo Tourism and the Business Improvement District (BID)
- Consideration of the Draft Strategy by the Strategic Policy Committee No 3 in December 2018
- Adoption by full Council of the Strategy in January 2019





The Sligo Diaspora

Who, How, Why, When and Where?

3.1 The Importance of Context

This section summarises Sligo’s socio-economic and Diaspora-related contexts and provides the basic understanding within which this Strategy has been developed.

3.2 Sligo: People and Place

Sligo’s population in 2016 was 65,535, 20,000 of whom (30%) lived in Sligo city. Whilst births consistently exceed deaths, the County experiences an ongoing net out-migration.

Project 2040, the National Planning Framework designates Sligo city, along with Letterkenny, as a regional centre in the North-West Region, with its significance as an employment and service centre seen to be much greater than its scale in terms of population.

Sligo Institute of Technology hosts 6,000 students through its Schools of Engineering/Design, Business/Social Science and Science. A third (33%) of the

County’s workforce are graduates (the national average is 31%) but there are clear indications that many Sligo graduates leave/have left the County.

3.3 Life in Sligo: What People Do

Sligo is a vibrant County jobs-wise, with 17,344 (82%) of its 21,074-strong workforce living in the County. As a major regional service centre Sligo has strong Health/Social Work (15%) and Education (9%) jobs sectors. Alongside these it has a growing modern private sector, facilitated by major infrastructure investments and substantive established international businesses.



3.4 Sligo's Heritage and Culture

The County's rich social, community, heritage and cultural infrastructure includes:

- Spectacular scenery/outdoor resources including 200km of Atlantic coastline and the Carrowmore/Carrowkeel/Creevykeel and many other archaeological remains
- Sligo Port, a major Famine embarkation port, the Famine Graveyard and strong Spanish Armada, Yeats Family and Gore-Booth/Countess Markievicz legacies
- Particular vibrancy in music of all genres, especially Irish Traditional music, Gaelic games and soccer (Sligo Rovers Club)

3.5 Tourism and Sligo

In 2015 Sligo attracted 86,000 overseas visitors, 33% from Britain, 46% from Europe and 16% from the US. The County

Sligo Tourism Strategy 2018-2023 sets a target of 548,000 visitors per year by 2023.

Ireland West Airport, Knock, links into 20+ destinations of which a number serve the outbound holiday market.

3.6 Diaspora and Ireland

Movement of people to, from and within Ireland and Sligo have underpinned economic and community life for the past three centuries. An estimated 70m people claim and cherish Irish ancestry and culture, of whom 960,000 have Sligo roots. Over 19,000 Sligo-born people currently live overseas, more than 8,000 of them in the UK.

Being part of the Diaspora does not necessarily mean a commitment or sense of belonging to it. Practical, pragmatic and effective engagement is needed to ensure a sense of belonging to Sligo is encouraged and developed.



3.7 The Dynamics of Emigration

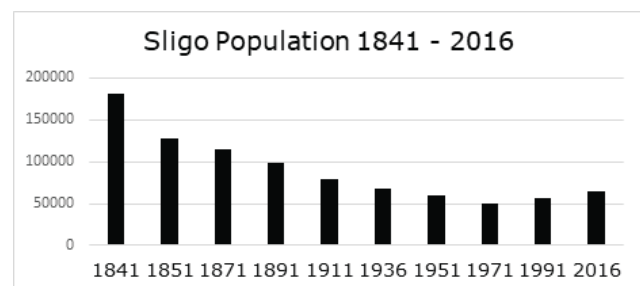
Emigration has traditionally been seen as negative and debilitating, sucking the youngest, brightest and best out of their home places. Its impact on Sligo has been huge, driving a continuous population decline that by 1971 had shrunk the County's population to just over a quarter of its pre-Famine 1841 peak.

Key emigration facts, influences and consequences include:

- People leave Ireland and Sligo in good times and in bad, but currently more are returning to Ireland than are leaving
- Key destinations include the EU, UK, Australia, USA and Canada
- In the UK the Irish 'centres of gravity' remain Greater London, the West Midlands and Greater Manchester
- Nearly half of Ireland's migrants are aged 25-44 and they form the best-educated and best connected-with-home Diaspora Ireland has ever had
- Greater Dublin is also increasingly impacting on west of Ireland Counties like Sligo, though locally Sligo enjoys a net gain of daily commuters
- The return home of the 'Affinity Diaspora', people from elsewhere who immigrated here is also significant: 'Non-Irish nationals' make up 9% of Sligo's population.

3.8 The Nature of 21st Century Emigration

Irish emigration and the Irish Diaspora are complex, but research and analysis show that emigration is now less permanent and more 'circular', with many people moving back and forward between 'here' and 'there'. People tend to go to join other people rather than go to live in other places and most of those emigrating leave a job in Ireland when they emigrate: 'quality of life' is a major pull-factor both for people leaving and coming back home.



Construction-related work remains the single most important destination of Irish migrants, though increasingly on the technical/professional as opposed to the trades side. Once abroad Irish people stick together and connect in with their Irish/cultural roots: sport is a powerful linking factor with the GAA an especially strong and vibrant influence. Social media now totally dominates Irish migrants' means of communication with home.

3.9 Linking with and Returning to Home

Most migrants intend to come back home and preferably to their 'home/roots' part of Ireland, with family ties, social services, schooling, housing and community all major influences on decisions. The 'mechanics' of coming back home permanently – securing housing, sorting out car-related issues, opening bank accounts, getting insurance, obtaining PPS numbers/logging back into social security systems and 'validating' non-Irish spouses/partners – present difficult barriers.



Most members of the Diaspora physically connect with Ireland/Sligo as tourists rather than as permanent returners or significant investors. This tourism tends to be either 'Heritage tourism' (driven by a wish to discover ancestry and heritage) or 'Festival tourism' (people returning for events and festivals such as Easter, Christmas, weddings and christenings). The Wild Atlantic Way has delivered a valuable marketing identity of which Sligo forms a vital part.





Sligo's Diaspora Strategy

4

4.1 Vision and Outcomes Sought

The 'Diaspora Vision' for Sligo is Sligo to be a compelling destination where our Diaspora return or engage to Live, Visit or Invest.

The strategic outcomes sought are:

- The development and delivery of a Sligo narrative that helps build the Sligo brand and delivers a strong sense of belonging for Sligo people everywhere
- The building of long-term, two-way relationships with the Diaspora so that they can be provided with support from Sligo and they in turn can promote Sligo abroad
- Greater engagement with the Diaspora so that they increasingly visit, invest in and/or return to Sligo
- More joined-up thinking, integration and collaboration between those working with the Diaspora
- This vision aligns with the new Sligo Branding process to promote Sligo across the 3 streams of live / invest / visit and will link with the Diaspora on the portal Sligo.ie

4.2 The Diaspora Strategy Themes

In developing the Strategy, it is considered that Diaspora engagement can be approached under four main themes:

1. Economic and Job Creation
2. Arts, Heritage and Culture
3. Tourism and Genealogy
4. Sport and Community

A core task is to brand Sligo as a welcoming place that's accessible and merges the best of the new/modern (for example Third Level Colleges, high-tec industries, regional significance) with the best of the old/traditional (for example archaeology, culture, heritage). Sligo wants to build 'tírghrá/pride in place', seeking a core output of getting as many of the Diaspora as possible to visit and/or engage with here.

It is also vital that the sense of 'Sligo Family' is strengthened so the Diaspora always maintain that sense of belonging and never feel abandoned or cast adrift.

A key way of doing this is by engaging with those members of the Diaspora's families who remain here in Sligo.

There is also a need to continue to work and collaborate at the regional level.

Whilst much of this strategic work is cross-cutting, running across all four themes, the relevant Actions are slotted in under one or other of the four main themes. All actions are indicative and will fall to relevant lead agencies/organisations to be delivered.

4.3 Theme 1: Economic and Job Creation

People no longer emigrate simply for work reasons and neither will the availability of jobs at home bring them back to Sligo. Nonetheless economic activity and jobs lie at the heart of people's lives, regardless of where they live. Key areas of focus here include bringing investment back to Sligo (and the region), improving opportunities here in Sligo, raising awareness of Sligo-produced/delivered goods and services and easing business flows between Sligo and its Diaspora.

Theme 1 - Indicative Actions

In collaboration with the Sligo Economic Forum and other relevant agencies, target Sligo's Ireland-based Diaspora with the messages that Sligo is 'open for business' and flourishes as an accessible, low-cost but high-quality place to live/be based in, and explore the development a 'Back Home to Business' support package for the Diaspora

Promote Ireland West Airport as an access point to Sligo and use its new Visitor Centre (featuring information on events, attractions, activities and visitor experiences across the region, including special live and interactive experiences throughout the year, important holiday dates and a series of County weeks) to showcase Sligo experiences

Build on Sligo IT's ongoing connectivity with its Alumni, support/promote Sligo school re-unions and proceed with Sligo LECP actions aiming at developing a Sligo Global Diaspora Network and using the Diaspora to promote Sligo IT internationally as a place of study

Maintain annual St Patrick's Day and other connections by Sligo County Council Cathaoirleach and Senior Officials with New York/USA

Support the Sligo/London Business Network in partnership with Sligo Chamber of Commerce in engaging with and promoting Sligo to the UK-based Sligo Diaspora (and others)

Maintain and develop Sligo Town Twinning in France, Germany and the US

4.4 Theme 2: Arts, Heritage and Culture

Knowing 'Who we are and Where we are from' is central to personal and community well-being and if anything, tend to be even more highly-valued by the Diaspora. Arts, heritage and culture are central to what differentiates people/communities and therefore need to be central to Diaspora-related work, which is relevant to the vision of the Creative Ireland concept. Sligo is underpinned by a series of strong

heritages and enjoys thriving Arts, Cultural and Creative sectors, together with vibrant performance venues such as The Model, The Hawks Well, The Blue Raincoat, The Factory and many other centres.

The County's traditional and contemporary Irish music heritages are especially strong. 'Irish and Sligo' culture provide important, vibrant and meaningful links to the Diaspora, links which need to be sustained and developed.



Theme 2 - Indicative Actions

Establish an annual 'Sligo Day', develop a 'Sligo Pin' and ensure the Sligo Diaspora is always referenced in every Sligo civic event/occasion. 'including engaging with Performance venues and centres.

Build on Sligo's traditional music heritages and resources such as the Coleman Irish Music Centre and the Fiddler of Dooney competition and promote Diaspora engagement at Comhaltas Branch and County levels, linking Sligo's Libraries, Heritage and Arts offices

Publish and promote an annual calendar of events to help attract Diaspora back to visit Sligo and encourage key (and smaller) festivals to link with the Council's emerging Festivals Framework to engage our diaspora and wider audiences consistent with other Council policies on promotion of Tourism, Festivals and the Arts

4.5 Theme 3: Tourism and Genealogy

It is now widely accepted that a key way of building and maintaining a Diaspora's sense of belonging is to facilitate them visiting their home place. Visiting alone is not enough however the Diaspora needs to engage with and be part of their County. That means creating for and

delivering to them a memorable 'Sligo experience', one that includes a strong genealogical offer. Very often the momentum for a Diaspora-related visit to the County has its origins in a 'remote' request for genealogical information via Sligo Libraries or Genealogy Centre. Genealogy not only helps build a 'Sligo common bond', but also bolsters the County's tourism industry.



Theme 3 - Indicative Actions

Promote and involve the Sligo Heritage and Genealogy Centre and other services and their activities and involvement in diaspora-related initiatives

Develop the 'Sligo Port Story', setting out its significant place in the West of Ireland Diaspora experience

Encourage a 'Sligo Roots' initiative where participating tourism businesses offer discounts to visiting Diaspora

Host, every two/three years, a 'Back Home to Sligo' Diaspora conference

Recognise the significance of major historical events such as the Famine and "Lest Sligo Forgets" commemorations by promoting and hosting events

4.6 Theme 4: Sport and Community

Research makes it clear that sport provides one of the most common bonds within the Diaspora beyond Sligo and between the Diaspora and Sligo. Sligo enjoys strong GAA and soccer traditions, with regular structured GAA engagements in place with London and New York via the Connacht GAA Championships. Strong connections also exist with Glasgow Celtic FC. Sligo Rovers successes have been vital to linking & highlighting Sligo abroad.



Theme 4 - Indicative Actions

Build on Sligo GAA's five-yearly Connacht Championship visits to London and New York and ensure an involvement in the years Sligo is not a direct participant; include a Diaspora element in the Sligo County GAA Centre of Excellence at Strandhill; and investigate the potential of bringing overseas GAA Féile teams to the County

Promote Sligo's links with clubs e.g. Sligo Rovers and Glasgow Celtic FC

Continuously celebrate Sligo's community and volunteers, its diversity, its openness to and acceptance of all and the significance of its growing Affinity Diaspora, using networks such as the Public Participation Network (PPN)

Show welcome and inclusivity to Sligo's Affinity Diaspora by providing, in association with other agencies, basic classes for Sligo people in other languages

Publish Sligo Diaspora-related stories/features in the local media and on the Sligo.ie platform and other social media in due course

Maintain and grow links with well-established Sligo Associations/Networks in Boston, Chicago, London, Manchester, New York and Tallahassee, all the while building a Sligo Diaspora database

Stream the St. Patrick's Day Festival from Sligo on an annual basis in order to engage with the wider Diaspora from an online platform



5 Regional Collaboration

5. Regional Collaboration

Successful implementation is a key part of any strategy and the actions below set out how it will be achieved here. Because this initiative emerged from collaboration

between Sligo, Leitrim, Longford and Roscommon County Councils, successful implementation will also involve some strategic joint-working across all four Councils.

Indicative Actions

Participate in a regular Sligo/Leitrim/Longford/Roscommon 'Diaspora Summit'

Develop a shared cross-Council response to the challenges Brexit may pose for the UK-based Diaspora in association with the Sligo Economic Forum and the Local Enterprise Office

Develop a signposting service for sources of advice and support for Diaspora moving back to Ireland hosted on each partner counties' .i.e. website and coordinated on a regional basis to avoid duplication (recognizing this work has to be a national initiative and the counties and region will signpost people towards it)

Continue to link in with the Western Development Commission's ongoing Diaspora-related events and activities and its LookWest online guide to living, working and doing business in the West, including Sligo

Develop a programme to introduce/re-introduce the Sligo Diaspora to their own home County (which many of them were unable to explore before they emigrated/left)

Develop a Sligo Diaspora digital media strategy built around an expansion of www.sligo.ie

Maintain involvement with the Ireland West International Trade Centre in Rhode Island, USA and organisation of joint trade missions to relevant destinations via the Local Enterprise Office

Identify a Sligo Diaspora Trail setting out/explaining Sligo's 'Diaspora story' and linking into other regional Diaspora sites and facilities - this can be provided in conjunction with existing and new tourism infrastructure

Digital Connectivity

6

6. Digital Connectivity and the Sligo Diaspora

The most fundamental fact about the Diaspora is that they are 'there' and we are 'here'. Communication between us is critical and digital/social media is now by far the most appropriate and effective

means to progress that. This is also an obvious area for inter-Council collaboration between Sligo and the Leitrim, Longford and Roscommon County Councils. The following framework for digital connectivity with the Diaspora is proposed:





7 Implementation & Monitoring

7. Implementation and Monitoring

Implementation and monitoring are key parts of any strategy and the Actions below set out how the strategic outcomes will be achieved over the five-year lifespan of the strategy.

The strategic outcomes sought are:

- The development and delivery of a Sligo narrative that helps build the Sligo brand and delivers a strong sense of belonging for Sligo people everywhere
- The building of long-term, two-way relationships with the Diaspora so that they can be provided with support from Sligo and they in turn can promote Sligo abroad
- Greater engagement with the Diaspora so that they increasingly visit, invest in and/or return to Sligo
- More joined-up thinking, integration and collaboration between those working with the Diaspora
- Using relationships with the Sligo Economic Forum and all other relevant agencies to achieve the vision

Indicative Actions

Integrate the Diaspora Strategy as part of other Council Strategic documents
Identify a specific Council Officer to lead on the Strategy

Review the Strategy after two and four years

Participate in regular Sligo/Leitrim/Longford/Roscommon 'Diaspora Summit/events'

Review the feasibility to host international Sligo themed events/festivals/conferences and encourage diaspora to host conferences in Sligo "Meet in Sligo"

APPENDIX 1 Sligo County Profile

Land Mass	183,746 ha
% of Ireland	2.6%
Population Density (2016)	35.67 persons per sq km
Human Resource	
County Population 2016	65,535
Population Change (2011-2016)	0.2%
Top 5 Centres of Population (2016)	
Sligo	19,199
Tubbercurry	1,986
Strandhill	1,753
Collooney	1,610
Ballymote	1,549
Highest level of Education (2016)	
Highest level of education completed by persons whose education has ceased (%)	
No Formal/Primary	(14.2%)
Secondary	(45.1%)
Third Level	(40.7%)
Natural Resources	
Average Farm Size (2010)	26.3ha
Farming, Fishing & Forestry workers (2016)	1,868
Employment	
Employed (2016)	26,002
Employment Change (2011-2016)	2.2%
Labour Force participation Rate (2016)	57.9%
Numbers Employed by Sector (2016)	
Total	26,002
Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	1,868 (7.2%)
Industry & Construction	4,427 (17.0%)
Services	18,650 (71.7%)
Agency Assisted Employment (2015)	
Employment in Agency Assisted Irish Owned	
Companies	1,723
Employment in Agency Assisted Foreign Owned	
Companies	2,029
Income & Output	
Net Output per Person Engaged (2012)	€135,789
Avg. Wage in industry (2012)	€37,977
Avg. Disposable Income per Capita (2015)	€19,001
Tourism (2015)	
Number of Overseas Tourists	186,000
Revenue Generated by Overseas Tourists	€51m
Enterprise (2015)	
Number of Active Enterprises	3,156
Percentage of Micro-Enterprises (10 or fewer employees)	93.3%
Percentage Change in Number of Enterprises (2011-2015)	-1.3%
Labour Catchments in County Sligo (2006) *	
Sligo borough labour catchment	21,824 (2016), 20,321 (2006)
Tubbercurry labour catchment	**NA (2016), 1,327 (2006)

* The labour catchment of a town is that area from which it draws most of its workforce. These figures are the number of workers living in the catchment areas of these towns

** Less than 3EDs assigned to Tubbercurry from analysis in 2016 and therefore was excluded

Sources:

Western Development Commission; CSO Census of Population 2016; Failte Ireland, Regional Tourism Performance 2015; CSO Business Demography 2015; CSO Labour Catchments 2016

APPENDIX 2 Acknowledgements

Team involved in the preparation of the County Sligo Diaspora Strategy

Dorothy Clarke	DOS	Sligo County Council
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Antoinette Carney	CO	Sligo County Council
Venturei Network		Consultants

Regional Partners

Roscommon County Council

Longford County Council

Leitrim County Council

Acknowledgements

Listed hereunder are the organisations and groups who made a contribution to the drafting of the County Sligo Diaspora Strategy 2019-2024. Sligo County Council would like to acknowledge all these efforts and wish to offer a huge "go raibh maith agat" to all.

Ballintogher Tidy Towns	Ballymote Family Resource Centre
Belt Torc Co Ltd	Carraroe & District Regeneration Association
Co Sligo Heritage & Genealogy Society	Comhaltas
Dromore West Community Enhancement	Elected Members of Sligo County Council
GAA	Grange & Armada Development Association
Grange Foroige Youth Club	ICA
Ireland West Knock Airport	IT Sligo
Maugerow Parish Hall	Michael Coleman Heritage Centre Ltd
Publishing Sligo's Past	Rathlee Tidy Towns
Sligo Airport	Sligo Business Improvement District
Sligo Business Network London	Sligo Famine Memorial Committee
Sligo Library	Sligo Rovers
Sligo Rowing Club	St Angela's College
Taunagh Select Vestry	The Yeats Society
Townlands & People	Strategic Policy Committee No.3
Sligo Tourism	Sligo Food Trail
Sligo Food Trail	Sligo Hospitality Sector
Fáilte Ireland	Sligo Chamber of Commerce
Sligo Vintners	Sligo Economic Forum
Co. Sligo Races Ltd.	Sligo Tourism / South Sligo Tourism
Local Media	PPN / Sligo Community
Sligo Schools	Sligo Leader Partnership Co.
Sligo LCDC	Festivals & Events
Team Sligo	Sligo Cemetery
Comhairle na n-Óg	Core Print

Sources

Figures and findings quoted are sourced from:

CSO Census Reports

Diaspora Matters 2011

Global Irish Making a difference Together

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Library Ireland



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